

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 27, 2017

The Honorable Neil Chatterjee
Chairman
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Chairman Chatterjee:

Thank you for your efforts to establish and maintain reasonable rates for transporting petroleum and petroleum products by pipeline.

We are writing regarding Colonial Pipeline Company's Line 25 pipeline, a stubline that delivers refined gasoline products from the company's main pipelines at Mitchell Junction in Columbia, Virginia to the Montvale Terminal in Montvale, Virginia. This line transports fuels to five terminals serving Roanoke, Virginia, and the surrounding markets.

As you may know, Colonial Pipeline recently announced the planned closure of Line 25 in August 2018 due to concerns regarding the condition of the pipeline's long-term viability. We are concerned about the broad implications this closure may have on sustainable and affordable fuel for residents in Southwestern and Western Virginia.

It is our understanding that without Line 25, gasoline and diesel providers would need to truck the necessary fuels from terminal locations in Fairfax and Richmond, Virginia, as well as from Greensboro, North Carolina and Knoxville, Tennessee. Preliminary estimates project that 170 additional tanker trips per day would be required to bring an adequate amount of fuel into the region. As a result, these areas would experience an increase of 4 cents to 6 cents per gallon. We are concerned about the impact that Line 25 closure would have on fuel costs to distributors and customers alike, as well as the public safety risks of adding that number of tankers per day on our interstate and local roadways.

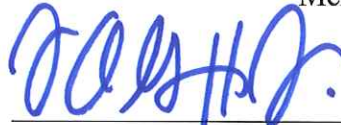
Furthermore, we are concerned that the Montvale terminal directly employs roughly 30 full-time equivalent employees. If service on Line 25 is terminated, the impact will not only be felt by these employees and their families, but also the numerous supporting industries that rely on the terminals for business.

Given the potential negative effects of the pipeline closure on our constituents and the gasoline supply for the Roanoke region, we would like FERC to provide to our offices any federal regulatory options for ways to work with Colonial on infrastructure upgrades that might prevent or alleviate their planned closure.

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Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact our offices should you need additional information.

Sincerely,


H. MORGAN GRIFFITH
Member of Congress
BOB GOODLATTE
Member of Congress
THOMAS GARRETT
Member of Congress